

# WEEKLY ARIZONA MINER

## SUPPLEMENT.

PRESCOTT, ARIZONA, FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 10, 1877.

VOL. XIV

### LETTER FROM DAN O'LEARY.

Southern Arizona. Farms, Indians, Etc.

EDITOR MINER:—You requested me to write you when leaving Prescott. I have not done so until now, as I have been waiting to recover from my surprise at finding a country that I never for a moment thought existed in Southern Arizona.

Our trip from Prescott to Salt River, thence to the Gila, and thence to Tucson was the usual desert crossing one would naturally expect to find in this country. No necessity for entering into details. The Indians enjoyed good health, and through the precautions of Lieut. Hanna in avoiding the Pima and Maricopa villages, small-pox, which was then raging at these villages, was entirely avoided. I find Lieutenant Hanna to be an energetic and painstaking officer, who spares neither time nor trouble to perform his duty. He arrived at Camp Lowell in due time. This is a very neat and comfortable post. At the time we arrived at Lowell it was commanded by Col. Andrews of the 8th Infantry, who, as well as Lieut. Ray and others stationed at that post, are well liked and spoken highly of in this portion of the Territory.

We left Lowell and marched out to the Cienega, about 20 miles from Lowell. Here subscriber took in his first dose of surprise. Here in a pleasant valley with plenty of water and grass, we found one man farming on a very limited scale. This valley, up with us, would be considered sufficient for a large settlement. Good grass in abundance on every hand. We traveled up this valley seven or eight miles and struck another cienega, plenty of water all the way, and a very fine farming country. We did not march to the end of this valley. I have no idea how far it extended. I enquired of our Guide how many settlers there were, and he said there was only one man with some cattle. I assure you this valley is fully as extensive and as good a location as Williamson Valley in our part of the Territory.

We left this valley and scouted in Whetstone mountains. We found good grazing on all of the foothills, although this was the dry season of the year. There are plenty of good stock ranges unoccupied and unclaimed. After passing to the other side of the Whetstone mountains we struck the valley of the Barbercomb creek, and fine grass all along. The Barbercomb is said to be an ancient Spanish grant. The McGarvey brothers have a ranch on the creek about 7 miles above old Camp Wallen, but they are not farming to amount to anything, being principally engaged in sheep and cattle raising. Between old Fort Wallen and McGarvey's ranch dwells our old friend Judge Lerty. You recollect the Judge, I am sure. He is farming and raising vegetables. The Barbercomb is 25 miles long from its source to its junction with the San Pedro, and flows east through a fine valley, with plenty of water all the way, and in places large cienegas. I have been down the San Pedro 13 miles below the mouth of the Barbercomb creek, and up the San Pedro to its head in Sonora and on all its tributaries. It is impossible for me to estimate the number of settlers that could find valuable farming land and stock ranches on this river. We can boast of no such valley up North. There is some talk about this valley being covered by Spanish grants, but whether it is this or the depredations of Indians has kept this valley from being settled I know not, but to me, having come here for the express purpose of hunting Indians and not having seen even a track of a hostile, it seems as if the Spanish grants must have been the cause. However, a small settlement has already sprung up on the San Pedro, about 20 miles from this camp, and bids fair to thrive and grow into a large settlement soon. But this leaves miles and miles of good farming and grazing lands along the banks of the San Pedro, only waiting for the plow to bring forth crops equal to any produced in Arizona. There are several fine valleys leading west from the Huachuca mountains to the San Pedro. Several cienegas, each of which are as good locations as are to be found. There are very fine stock ranges in Huachuca, Dragoon, and Whetstone mountains, and, in fact, this whole country is one vast stock range. There seems to be something lacking here, as in the Northern country in '61 and '65. I think it is settlers. I tell

you I was surprised to find such a fine country here, expecting as I did to find barren hills and dried up streams.

We scouted from this camp to the Sonora and Santa Cruz valleys. At Camp Crittenden, formerly old Fort Buchanan, there is a fine stock ranch, and Lieut. Hanna introduced me to the proprietor, Mr. Thomas Hughes, and an old-timer. He gave me considerable information about Chuacahu Apaches, and as he was at one time engaged in trading with them when Jeffords was their Agent, his information was reliable, and I think knows as much about Indian affairs in this section as any man in the country. If he chose to give his knowledge publicly, it would interest the citizens a great deal, but I think would not take well with Indian Agent Clum. We went from Hughes' to Morgan's ranch, a distance of about 70 miles, and not a settler between. Mr. Morgan is an old acquaintance from Prescott, and has a fine ranch and fruit orchards. He is also engaged in cattle raising. Between his ranch and Hughes' there is sufficient good tillable land for at least twenty ranches for stock or farming.

After leaving Morgan's, we scouted rolling foothills and mountains to Mowry mine; fine grazing country all the way, and nothing in Northern Arizona to be compared with it in extent. The hills are not too steep and there is plenty of water in springs and cienegas. From the Mowry mine we scouted to and across the Mexican line into Sonora. We scouted around the southern base of the Huachuca mountains—this portion of country it is needless to describe, as it is (at present) outside our jurisdiction. This country is far superior, for farming and cattle raising, than we have heretofore given it credit for, and knowing that you are not prejudiced against any portion of our Territory, I have no hesitancy in informing you of what a vast amount of valuable land is here lying idle, as it may be of benefit to some of the emigrants now coming to Prescott to continue their journey a little farther and find plenty of good homesteads, as there is land sufficient for farming and grazing for many an emigrant not yet en route for this country.

I am satisfied that in two or three months from now all danger from hostile Indians will have ceased. The presence of the military here is a guaranty of safety to those who desire to settle up the country. Lieutenants Hanna and Rucker keep the country well scouted, and are able and willing to look out for this portion of Arizona, and we, to the redskins that wanders down in this vicinity, for argus eyes are on the look out for him, and it would be well for him to arrange his worldly affairs ere he takes to the war-path in this neighborhood.

Camp Huachuca is pleasantly located at the foot of one of the canyons about eight miles from old Fort Wallen. A person must be hard to please who would desire a better location. There are two companies (3 and M) of the Sixth Cavalry stationed here; Major Whitside in command, and who with the other officers stationed here—Lieutenants Perrine, Hanna and Craig, of the 6th Cavalry—are all energetic officers. Dr. Reagles, formerly of our northern country, is stationed here as post surgeon. A small party of our Hualpais are out all the time looking for signs of hostiles, but as yet have found none. This is about the only unpleasant feature for the Hualpais. There is plenty of game here, and good fishing in the San Pedro; parties go down there occasionally and supply the whole camp with fish. No danger of any person's hair getting stiff here for the want of grease, as there are plenty of bears in the mountains, and not a few have contributed towards supplying hair-oil and meat for the garrison. Abundance of pine timber abounds in the canyons and oak on the foothills. There are several adobe buildings erected here, post trader's store, etc., all on private terms. The quarters are all stockaded. A reading room, barber-shop and such things remind me of civilization. The soldiers have a garden at old Fort Wallen, and vegetables are plenty. There are good specimens of ore seen here, and the facilities for working mines are good, but the country has not been prospected yet. No doubt rich discoveries will soon turn up here. Occasionally the Hualpais get on track of some Mexican passing through to Tucson to sell mesquite and other articles, and chase them up, and are much disappointed that they are not Apaches, for they

wear moccasins. Now and then I get a glance at the MINER at the post trader's store. Am pressed for time at present, but will write you more at length soon.

D. O'LEARY.

Camp Huachuca Mts., July 31, 1877.

### An Indian Camp-Meeting.

There has been so much news of the hostilities of the red man lately, that it is pleasant to know there is a reverse side to the story. A Correspondent of one of the Chicago papers describes the gathering together of the peaceable Kansas tribes, in camp-meeting at Baxter's Springs in that state, cultivation of closer fraternity and to renew their assurance of friendship for the whites. They assembled at the summons and under the auspices of Mr and Mrs. Tuttle, a couple of Quakers, who for a number of years have been performing missionary labor in that part of the country, teaching the children an English education and training a large school of young women in domestic duties. Among those present were delegations from the Ottawas, Peorias, Wyandottes, Ponces, and the Modocs, of Lava Bed notoriety. Bogus Charley, of the Modocs, was one of the speakers, with temperance as his theme. Frank Kinghead, Chief of the Ottawas, spoke on the same subject, and in testimony of the reformatory efforts of the Tutties said he supposed his hearers would think it strange to hear him advocate the cause of temperance, "who had at one time been the greatest drunkard in his nation." He attested that his tribe had been almost completely reformed in this respect.

The correspondent relates the incident of an Ottawa girl, brought up in Mrs. Tuttle's family, who married a Modoc, and as pertinent to this branch of the subject, gives us an idea of the manner in which many of the Indians have been refined in the matter of dress. He tells us: On the occasion mentioned Bogus Charley wore a suit of black cloth, with fine shirt, paper collar, and "stove-pipe" hat, with boots polished to a nicety. The women dress in all styles, from a plain calico skirt and short gown up to the more recent polonaise or basque and overdress. The bride, with whom we talked, wore a white dress flowered with pink, made with long polonaise cut diagonal in front.

### Catastrophism.

Mr. Clarence King is the author of the scientific sensation of the year. For the subject of his address before the alumni of the Sheffield scientific school at New Haven, Connecticut, he chose "Catastrophism, or the Evolution of Environment." In his geological researches Mr. King has found disturbances which can apparently be accounted for on y upon the ground of catastrophe or complete overturning of existing conditions. Thus he brings himself at direct issue with the evolutionists, who put continued, gradual and uniform growth and change at the basis of their theories of development. Mr. King's address was very long. We can but note a few of the points made. He first established the reality of physical disturbances at several epochs in the history of the Cordillera region, which has been his field of labor. Between the catastrophes intervened the long periods of quiet action, such as is claimed for universal time by the uniformitarians. The same amount of energy would be required to elevate mountainous districts upon either view. The effects of the cataclysms upon life are claimed to be partly extermination; partly destruction of biological equilibrium, thus violating natural selection; and partly the production of morphological changes in plastic species. Marked changes of species are noted in connection with these catastrophes. An illustration is afforded by the supposed genealogy of the American horse, as set forth by Huxley and Marsh, and regarded as demonstration of evolution, or the descent of the several genera from each other. King asserts that in the Cordillera country, where these relics occur, there has been a catastrophe intervening between each two successive forms of the horse.

After criticizing the opinions of Huxley, Lyell, Hutton, Darwin, and others, he resorted to the effects of sudden terrestrial or cosmical changes, and conceived that the effects of these changes would be, first, extermination; secondly, destruction of the biological equilibrium; and thirdly, rapid morphological change on the part of plastic species. When catastrophic change bursts in upon the age of uniformity, and sounded

in the ears of every living being, "change or die!" plasticity becomes the principle of salvation. And the key to survival and progress, King remarked in conclusion, "He who brought to bear the energy we call life upon the world bestowed at the same time a development by change, arranged interaction of energy and matter, up environment should, from burst in upon the current of life, onward and upward to ever higher manifestations. Moments of catastrophe, thus translated into of life, become moments of out of plastic organisms, and nobler is called into life and Engineering Journal.

Good work even can be New Mexico at \$50 per acre.

Two women have been appointed graphers to the Supreme Court.

The area under wheat in New Mexico was 22 per cent. less in 1876 than in 1875.

It is estimated that 2,000 M hides are awaiting shipment at the shipping points west of Dallas.

A battle is reported to have taken place in the Big Horn country, where 14 miners were killed and 100 horses. Rather a big story to believe.

Public sentiment in England is growing more bitter every day against the Russians, and warmer sympathy is evinced toward the Ottomans.

Pascual, chief of the Yuma Indians, has not been there since he was shot when he says it was not his fault. Yuma Sentinel.

The Navajoe Indians are peaceful, and coming into the settlements trading in goods, etc., for domestic and wearing apparel.

Colonel Sellers, otherwise known as the Ticasary Department, the other day, said, "There's millions in it!"—added, reflectively, "there's millions in it."

Robert Burdett, the humorist, is as famous for his der care of his invalid wife as for his funny paragraphs. He has been for years, doing his editorial and visiting the Hawkeye or two in the day.

Mr. D. S. Lusk, of Sacramento, visited this section about three weeks ago, and reported favorably upon the Territory and all it contained. He stopped off at Tyson's, where he was met by the Apache Chief, who concluded his mission in the Territory, and will move north.

Professor John Muir is the author of the Bulletin of July 24th, giving an account of the hardships of his journey. He found her in San Patch, where his name is Litty Young, a girl of the Prophet. In writing of the San Patch he warns the people who have a perverse tendency to hounding his manuscript, as the "Widow of San Patch."

General Grant is a republican abroad. His wife is a democrat, and that he cannot be spared from the people who are the more in honor. The London Convention of the New York Tribune which may safely conclude that he did him no harm. He is just as free from the perils of the sea as the shore of the Pacific.